

BASS'
LIGHT GRAVITY
ALE.
\$2.10 per dozen pints
In excellent condition.
H. PRICE & CO.,
408 12, Queen's Road.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

BOARS' HEAD BRAND
Guinness' Stout.
Per Cask of 8 dozen pints,
\$23.00.
Sole Agents,
H. PRICE & CO.
408 12, Queen's Road.

No. 12,218.

號九十月五年二零百九千一英

HONGKONG, MONDAY, MAY 19, 1902.

日二十月四年寅壬

PRICE, \$2.50 Per Month.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.
LONDON:—P. ALLEN, 11 & 12, Great
Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. STREET
& CO., 20, Cornhill. GORDON &
GODFREY, Ltd., 10, Abchurch Lane, E.C. 4.
HONGKONG:—Messrs. H. PRICE & CO.,
12, Queen's Road. W. M. WILSON, 154,
Leadenhall Street, E.C. 3. ROBERT WATSON,
150, Fleet Street, E.C. 4. MITCHELL & CO.,
10, St. John's Street, E.C. 4.
PARIS AND EUROPE:—MAYERSON,
FAHSE & CO., 18 Rue de la Grange
Boulevard.
NEW YORK:—THE CHINESE EXCHANGE
Office, 52, West 22nd Street.
SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports
generally:—DEAN & BLACK, San Fran-
cisco.
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW
ZEALAND:—DEAN & BLACK, Mel-
bourne and Sydney.
CEYLON:—W. M. SUTHER & CO., THE
SOUTHERN CANTON, Colombo.
PATAVIA:—H. M. VON DUB & CO.
SINGAPORE, STRAITS, & KILLY &
WALSH, Ltd., Singapore.
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS:—A. S. WAT-
SON & CO., Manila.
CHINA:—Messrs. H. PRICE & CO., 12, Queen's Road, Hongkong.
BANKERS:—Messrs. H. PRICE & CO., 12, Queen's Road, Hongkong.
Sole Agents for the China Mail.

For Sale.
FOR SALE
HOUSES and LAND at the PEAK. For
particulars apply to
DEAN & BOWLEY,
Solicitors, Singapore, China.
Hongkong, September 23, 1901. 2907

Wanted.
WANTED.
SHORTLAND and TYPEWRITER:
Good Salary for an Able, quick
Working Man.
Apply to
N. Y. Z.
Hongkong, May 8, 1902. 979

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.
WANTED.
AN EXPERIENCED FOREMAN for a
Government Timber Mill; Must be
thoroughly acquainted with the erection
and management of Timber-cutting Ma-
chinery. Forward copies of recent testimo-
nials, and state salary required.
to Director of Public Works,
SARAWAK.
Hongkong, February 3, 1902. 256

Intimations.
NAVAL YARD.
WANTED BOY WRITER IN CHIEF
ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.
Salary \$25 per month.
Hongkong, May 17. 1493

LOST.
A Parcel of RIGHTS belonging to
W. W. POWELL, Ltd. REWARD
on returning to the above.
Hongkong, May 16, 1902. 1076

CORONATION CELEBRATION FUND.
THE Undersigned will be glad to Re-
ceive SUBSCRIPTIONS towards the
above FUND—LISTS may be found at
HONGKONG HOTEL, HONGKONG CLUB,
HONGKONG DISPENSARY, Messrs. LANE,
Crawford & Co., KELLY & WALSH LTD.,
W. BROWNE & Co., and at the various
Banks.
J. R. M. SMITH,
Hon Treasurer.
Hongkong, May 7, 1902. 975

THE HONGKONG DOCKS.
AN INTERESTING RECORD.
Reprinted from the CHINA MAIL.
Price, 50 cents each Cash.
NOW READY.

THE POPULAR SCOTCH IS "BLACK & WHITE"



JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.
SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS.
By Appointment to
H. M. THE KING.
12, CRAWFORD & Co., Hongkong,
Sole Agents.

Business Notices.
W. S. BAILEY & CO.
Engineers, Shipbuilders, Boilermakers,
Blacksmiths, and Brass and Iron Founders.
COAST AND RIVER STEAMERS, STEAM WATER BOATS, LIGHTERS,
TUGS AND EAST STEAM-LOCOMOTIVES.
Pumps, Packings, General Stores and Engineers' Tools of Every Description.
OFFICES & SALES-ROOMS, ENGINE & SHIPBUILDING WORKS,
60 & 62, DES VUEX ROAD CENTRAL, KOWLOON BAY.
W. S. BAILEY, M. I. M. E. E. O. MURPHY, M. I. M. E. E. A. S. V. E. I. E.
CONTRACTORS FOR ALL KINDS OF ENGINEERING WORK.
PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND TENDERS.
Consulting and Superintending Engineers and Surveyors. 2454

NOTICE.
TSE KWONG MOW is hereby given that TSE
KWONG MOW, 25, Wellington Street, having on that day
transferred their shares and all privileges in connection therewith to TSE KWONG
MOW, 25, Wellington Street, and that TSE KWONG MOW
and others have taken over the con-
tractor's shop and continue business under
the same name in No. 25 Wellington
Street. All debts contracted by the old
partners above mentioned and their liabilities
are limited to them and all future profits
and loss will not affect them.
The public are also informed that there
are other building contractors trading
under the name of KWONG MOW
茂 Company 公司 which is not con-
nected with the undersigned, and all en-
quiries should be requested to make the distinction.
謝廣茂
TSE KWONG MOW
Building Contractors.
Hongkong, May 3, 1902. 947

廣英祥公司
QUONG YING CHONG, CO.
BUILDING CONTRACTORS.
No. 245 Des Vues Road, Hongkong.
Please give us a Call.
Hongkong, April 16, 1902. 825

HONGKONG SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY.
18 BANK BUILDINGS, WYNDHAM STREET.
Founded in 1891, by Dr. Gaultier, and
Conducted for several years by
H. E. POLLOCK, Esq., F.R.C.
Subscriptions, payable in advance \$7.50
per half-year; \$14.00 per month.

THE LIBRARY contains, in addition to
fiction, a number of Standard works of
Biography, History, Travel, &c., and
Works of Reference, and it is hoped to
maintain it up to date.
Interested subscribers are requested to
apply to
CAPTAIN SPENCER,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer
Ordinance Office.
Trinidad.
Rev. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.,
G. E. DOWELL, Esq.,
R. SHERMAN, Esq.,
Hongkong, January 2, 1902. 7

SPONGES!
SPONGES!!
SPONGES OF VARIOUS SIZES
AT VERY MODERATE PRICES.
H. RUTONJEE,
No. 5, D'Almeida Street, H.K.
Nos. 39 and 40, Elgin Road, Kowloon.
Hongkong, April 15, 1902. 827

SANITARY BOARD NOTICE.
IN View of the Prevalence of Cholera
in Hongkong, the Public are hereby
warned against the Consumption of Unripe
or Over Ripe Fruit, Uncooked Vegetables
and Unboiled Milk or Water.
By Order,
G. A. WOODCOCK,
Secretary.
Hongkong, May 8, 1902. 978

NOTICE.
ANY teams wishing to enter for the
HONGKONG WATER POLO
SHIELD COMPETITION will please send
in their teams (creating Captains) to the
Secretary as soon as possible.
F. D. BAIN, HON. SECRETARY,
Hongkong Water Polo Association.
Hongkong, May 16, 1902. 1047

'THE REVENUE OF CHINA.'
A SERIES OF ARTICLES.
Reprinted from 'The China Mail.'
WITH AN APPENDIX.
To be had at the Office of this Paper,
Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, LTD.,
And Messrs. W. BUCHANAN & Co.
Price, 50 Cents.

W. H. POTTS & CO.,
No. 3, QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.
WASHING BOOKS.
(In English and Chinese.)
WASHERMAN'S BOOKS, for the use
of Ladies and Gentlemen, can now
be had at this Office. Price, \$1 each.
China Mail Office.

Business Notices.
BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, LIMITED,
4 PRAXA CENTRAL
(NEAR THE ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE).
PACKING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
BOILER COMPOSITION,
ENGINE AND OTHER OILS,
ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK.
ALL ARTICLES OF FIRST-CLASS QUALITY.
BRADLEY & Co., Managers.

SPECIAL SHOW
SUMMER GOODS.
ZEPHYR SHIRTS.
Soft Fronts, White and Coloured.
The IDEAL Shirt for the Hot Weather.
WASHING TIES. For Bows or Knots.
STRAW HATS.
An inspection is invited.
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.
A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, PROVIDED WITH EVERY COMFORT.
NEWLY-FURNISHED ROOMS.
TWO ELEVATORS.
NEW REFRIGERATING PLANT.
BEST QUALITY LIQUORS & PROVISIONS.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S
P. & O.
SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD
HIGHLAND WHISKY.
FERGUSON'S
SPECIAL CREAM
BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.
These are the finest productions of Scotland,
and avoid absolutely of all deleterious matter.
THE CREME DE LA CREME OF
WHISKIES.
PURE AND MILD.
Sole Importers,
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

MUSIC LESSONS.
MR. L. A. GRACA receives Pupils for
the VIOLIN, MANDELIN and
GUITARRA.
For Terms, Etc.,
Apply to THE STUDIO
'Egmont Villa',
No. 19, Caine Road.
Hongkong, December, 27 1901. 2293

**HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAM-
WAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.**
TIME TABLE.
WEEK DAYS.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 1.55 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.55 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
SUNDAYS.
8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.
Extra cars at 11.30 and 11.45 p.m.
SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the
Company's Office, 38 and 40, Queen's Road
Central.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, December 17, '01. 1061

MEE CHEUNG,
HIGH-CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER.
Developing and Printing for Amateurs.
ENLARGEMENTS A SPECIAL FEATURE.
BRANCH IN
HONGKONG HOTEL CORRIDOR.
1587
BOARD AND RESIDENCE.
TANG YUEN,
MACDONNELL ROAD, from 15th Jan-
uary. Large, Airy, and Well-furnished
Rooms. Uninterrupted View of Har-
bour.
Apply on Premises or FAIRALL & CO.,
Queen's Road.
Hongkong, January 9, 1902. 95
LI KWONG LOONG,
Cabinet-Maker and Art Decorator, 李廣隆
from Shanghai, has opened a
FURNITURE STORE,
at
No. 17, QUEEN'S ROAD.
The only Shop in Hongkong with this
name, where HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE
of every description can be made to order in
any design required.
Has been patronised by the Hongkong
Club, Hongkong Hotel, Messrs. A. S.
Watson & Co., Limited, Joint Telegraph
Co., and other leading Establishments in
the Colony, to whom reference may be
made as to the Furniture, &c., supplied.
Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. write, as
follows:—
"We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI
KWONG LOONG furnished the
"Annexe to our Dispensary and gave us
every satisfaction."
(Sd.) A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED.
Orders promptly attended to and
charges most moderate.
For Sale Large Stock of HIGH-CLASS
FURNITURE, now on view.
Hongkong, January 23, 1902. 208

Business Notices.
GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.
Portland Cement.
In casks of 375 lbs net \$5.50 per cask, ex Factory.
In bags of 250 lbs net \$3.50 per bag, ex Factory.
FACTORIES—HONGKONG AND MACAO.
Glazed Stoneware, Drain Pipes and Fittings, Glazed
Paving Bricks and Tiles, Fire Bricks and Fire Clay.
FIRE CLAY WORKS.—DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG
For further particulars, apply to

Shewan, Tomes & Co.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.
The Peak Hotel.
Admirably Situated—Sheltered from the North-East Monsoon and Open to the
South-West Monsoon.
A COVERED GANGWAY LEADS FROM THE TRAMWAY TERMINUS
INTO THE HOTEL.
69 Telephone No. 29. Town Office, 7, DUNDRELL STREET.

DENNY, MOTT & DICKSON, LD.,
BANGKOK (SIAM),
TEAK MERCHANTS AND SAW MILLERS.
SIEMSEN & CO.,
Sole Agents for Hongkong and South China.
Hongkong, August 1, 1901. 1638

COTTAM & CO.,
HONGKONG HOTEL BUILDINGS
A NEW SUPPLY OF
PANAMA HATS
AND
SUMMER UNDERWEAR OF ALL DESCRIPTION.
Hongkong, April 9, 1902. 223

Cutler, Palmer & Co.,
LONDON.
(Wine Shippers by China since 1815).
Have always Stocks of their well-known Brands with
HONGKONG, 15th July, 1901. 1462

JOHNSON'S
DIGESTIVE TABLETS
THE GREAT REMEDY FOR
INDIGESTION, DYSPEPSIA, FLATULENCY
AND ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH.
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
LATE DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & CO., LTD.
763

CHAMPAGNES
FROM
CHARLES HEIDSIECK,
PURVEYOR TO HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD.
SIEMSEN & CO.,
SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

W. BREWER & CO.
NEW NOVELS at 1.75 Each.
The Dark O' the Moon, by Cranford.
Stolen Souls, by William de Quincey.
The Lady of the Lake, by G. R. Simey.
The Story of Fortune, by Neil Munro.
Miss Barbara Gaudie, by S. J. Simey.
The Story of Circumstances, by S. J. Simey.
Drift, by L. T. Meade.
Andrey, by May Johnston.
The Story of Tereza, by Macdonald.
Deacon and Actress, by Guntor.
The Mystery of a Ship Yard, by Savace.
A Dream of Freedom, by Hume Nisbet.
My Strangest Case, by Guy Boothby.

AQUARIUS.
SPARKLING MINERAL TABLE WATER
AND
SILENT WATER.
Both of these Waters are Manufactured entirely from pure
trouble distilled water, and are guaranteed free from all form of
organic contamination and microbes.
Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.,
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
15, Queen's Road,
Hongkong, May 10, 1902. 9

TELEPHONE NO. 256.
CABLE ADDRESS: "ACHEE," HONGKONG.
A B C CODE, 4TH EDITION.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

ACHEE & CO

祥利廣

17a Queen's Road.

**Furniture
Dealers.**

**DRAWING-ROOM,
DINING-ROOM,
and BEDROOM
FURNITURE.**

**ELECTRO-PLATED,
GLASS and
CHINA WARES.**

**PASTEUR'S MICROBE-
PROOF FILTERS,
ROCHESTER LAMPS,
WHITE TURKISH
TOWELS and
COUNTERPANES.**

**COOKING RANGES,
KITCHEN UTENSILS,
and HOUSEHOLD
REQUISITES.**

**WM. POWELL,
LIMITED,**

28 & 34, Queen's Road
(Opposite Hongkong Hotel and Post Office)

General**Drapers****and****Outfitters****DRESSMAKING****A SPECIALITY.**

All cutting executed by
an experienced
Dressmaker.

Parisienne and**English Millinery**

Always in stock. Orders
receive European
Supervision.

Just received

Large stock of White and
Colored Muslin Curtains;
also, White and Ecru Lace
Curtains.

**NEW MILLINERY,
NEW MUSLINS,
NEW SUMMER
DRESS GOODS.**

Telephone No. 155.

**D. C. L. GIN,****OLD TOM and****DRY.**

The Finest London Gin on this
Market.

\$7 50 per dozen.

H. PRIOR & CO.,

45a 12, Queen's Road.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.**Auction.**

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household Furni-
ture, at Mr. V. I. Remedios's Sales
Rooms.

General Memoranda.

WEDNESDAY, May 21.—
Notes.—Meeting of Shareholders of The
"Star" Ferry Co., Ltd., at the Com-
pany's Office.

2.30 p.m.—Meeting of H.M.'s Justices
of the Peace.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household Furni-
ture, at the Residence of Mr. E. Hohnke,
Smith Villa, East Magazine Gap.

Goods per *Perseus* not cleared at 4
p.m. this date subject to rent.

Goods per *Perseus* undelivered after
this date subject to rent.

Goods per *Perseus* undelivered after this
date subject to rent.

9 p.m.—Meeting of Victoria Chapter.

SATURDAY, May 24.—
11 a.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of the
China Light and Power Co., Ltd., at
the Company's Office.

BICYCLISTS

4500 LD never start out without a bottle
of Chamberlain's Pain Balm in their
tool bags. This liniment is excellent for
all fresh wounds and sprains. One appli-
cation gives relief. Try it. For sale by
All Dealers; WATKINS Ltd., General
Agents.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,**LIMITED.**

Established A.D. 1841.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS**WATSON'S**

Celebrated

E**BLEND.****VERY OLD LIQUEUR****SCOTCH****WHISKY.**

Our Celebrated "E" Liqueur FOTCH

WHISKY is a Blend of the Finest

WHISKIES distilled in SCOTLAND

Specially selected. It is of great age.

Very fine and Mellow.

Its superior quality has established

its reputation as the LEADING

SCOTCH WHISKY IN THE EAST.

For Dozen\$15.00.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,**THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.****MARRIAGE.**

At St. John Cathedral, on the 16th
May, by the Rev. G. A. Bunbury, M.A.,
FRANCIS JAMES BUNBURY, of the
I. M. Customs, Wuchow, to ISABELLA
STEVENS, eldest daughter of JOHN BROWN,
Esq., New Henden, Sunderland.

The publication of this notice commenced
at 1.30 p.m.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, MAY 19, 1902.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The public will learn with
regret that the Hon. T.
WHITEHEAD, H. Whitehead has received
instructions to proceed
to London as speedily as possible to act,
temporarily, as London Manager of the
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and
China, in consequence of the continued
illness of the Manager, Mr. W. A. Main.

Mr. Whitehead proceeds home via
America, leaving Hongkong early next
month. It is not known, of course,
how long his services may be required
in London, but we understand that his
transfer to the Head Office in London
was not altogether unforeseen. Should
it happen that Mr. Whitehead does not
return to Hongkong his loss to the
Colony will be a serious one. No one
has more courageously upheld public
interests in the Legislative Council, and
that, too, in the face of many discouragements,
chief among which was the lack of
support from his Unofficial colleagues. He
has also taken a prominent part in
the affairs of the Chamber of
Commerce, the China As-
sociation and other public bodies, and
with unsurpassed energy has served the
public in many other ways without
neglecting the interests of the great
banking institution with which he is
connected. It is especially to be re-
gretted that Mr. Whitehead leaves so
soon, as we believe, he was to have pre-
sented the public address to His Excel-
lency the Officer Administering the Go-
vernment at the Coronation Celebra-
tions, and to second the congratulatory
telegram to be sent to Their Majesties
the King and Queen by the Legislative
Council on behalf of the community.

In view of the fact that fresh legislation
of an important character is in con-
templation, it is particularly to be regretted
that Mr. Whitehead should be with-
drawn from Hongkong at present. The
most comforting thought, in the
circumstances, is that, in London, Mr.
Whitehead may be an even greater
force for the benefit of the China trade
and Hongkong than he has been during
his many years' residence in the Colony.

Where Most Rain Falls.
On scanning the yearly reports of the
Meteorological Society one is struck by the
great difference in the rainfall in different
parts of the United Kingdom. The driest
part of the whole kingdom is the district
stretching from the Humber to Cambridge,
over which district the average yearly rain-
fall is under 25 inches. The driest part of
Scotland is the area bounded by the Forth
and Tweed, the yearly rainfall along the
coast between these two rivers never
exceeding 30 inches. The Trossachs
district (says the "People's Friend") is
the wettest part of Scotland, the
average yearly rainfall being nearly
80 inches; but this is exceeded in the Lake
district of England, where the yearly
rainfall averages 100 inches. At Southwale
the annual rainfall averages 135 inches,
while at Stye, only two miles off, the
average rises to 170 inches. Stye holds the
record for the largest rainfall in the
kingdom in one year, 244 inches being
recorded in 1872. The wettest district in
the world is believed to be that in the
neighborhood of the Khasi Hills, in As-
sam. The world's record for the greatest
fall in one hour is held by a town in
California, 11 inches being recorded during
a thunderstorm.

If each person knew what he was going to
say before he started to talk there would
be less talk, and what there would be
worth listening to.

MISTAKES of other people which affect us
had best be corrected, for their sake, be-
cause of the more near to perfection it makes
them; second, for our sake, because of the
satisfaction it gives to help some one who is
weaker, at least in one thing, than we.

DIARRHŒA
It is more to be dreaded than diphtheria.
It attacks all ages and is equally fatal
to young and old. The great mortality
resulting from diarrhœa is due to the lack
of proper treatment at the first stages of
the disease. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera
and Diarrhœa Remedy is a reliable and
effective medicine, and if given in time will
prevent serious consequences. The remedy
never fails and is pleasant to take. Every
household should have a bottle at hand.
Get it today. It may save a life. For sale
by All Dealers; WATKINS Ltd., General
Agents.

For Dozen\$15.00.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

191

LOCAL AND GENERAL.**Notes by the Way.**

Mails from St. Petersburg reach Port
Arthur in 11 or 15 days.

On receipt of the news at Shanghai of
the Martinique disaster, all the Consular
flags were half-masted.

Mr. Byron Brennan, C.M.G., arrived at
Shanghai the other day in connection with
the British and China Corporation.

The rebellion in Venezuela is assuming
a more and more alarming character. The
rebels are advancing everywhere.

By defeating Bury by 3 goals to nil,
Sunderland wins the championship of the
English Football League. This is the
fourth time Sunderland has won, besides
being runners-up on three occasions.

The *Hongkong Times* says:—We under-
stand that the *ss Bernice* will not be seen
in Hongkong again for a few months, as she
has been chartered and is now on a run in
the Straits. With the *Thadus* also chartered
but that leaves only two British boats
among the regular Bangkok liners.

China Tea Duty Reduced.

A notification was published at Shang-
hai, on the 15th inst., by order of the In-
spector General of the L.M. Customs, that
the export duty on tea will shortly be re-
duced to five per cent ad valorem, approxi-
mately.

Shanghai Chamber of Commerce.

The following gentleman have been
appointed to the Chamber of Commerce
Committee at Shanghai:—Messrs H. M.
Davis, L. Bridon, C. Brodersen, W. Dros-
meier, C. J. Dudgeon, J. S. Fearon, R.
Ingles, A. Korff, H. R. Kinnear, W. D.
Little, A. M. Marshall, A. Wright.

Queen's Scholarships.

We learn from our Penang contem-
porary that the Queen's Scholarships for
the Straits Settlements for the current
year have been won by Chinese boys, the
first by Tan Seng Sun, of St. Xavier's
Institute, and the second by Koh Kheng
Seong, of the Free School. This is the third
Queen's Scholarship, which enables the
winner to study at a British University,
that St. Xavier's has won since 1898.

The Hongkong Regiment.

The *World* says:—Lieut.-Colonel Ru-
talick, commanding the Hongkong Regi-
ment, had been informed when the mail
left China that his battalion was to be dis-
banded. It was raised ten years ago from
among the natives of Upper India to do
duty at Hongkong, and has been brought
to a high standard of efficiency. The of-
ficers, who are all drawn from the Indian
Staff Corps, will return to native regiments;
while such men as have not completed their
term of service will be absorbed into the
Native Army. The officers who will be
affected, besides Colonel Rutalick, are
Captains Barger, Rovercraft, Anderson, and
Campbell, and Lieutenants Mohlerly, Bar-
rett, and Wallace. For these, however,
the disappointment will not be so great as,
it would have been had they not been
placed on the Second List of their units
when they accepted service.

Barnes' Entertainers.

The programme submitted at the
Theatre Royal on Saturday night by Barnes'
Twentieth Century Entertainers got a re-
markably good reception from a full
house. The ever-green comedian Harry
Gray was again equal to the occasion as a
funny man and was vociferously applauded.
He is one of the kind that an audience does
not tire of. Madame Freed was in excellent
voice and charmed her audience. The
illustrated songs of Miss Rosa Barnes were
admirable, the sprightly singer of "The Girl
in Khaki" was applauded to the echo, and
carried home a huge floral tribute from
one of her admirers. The biographic
pictures of the Dreyfus trial were very
good indeed, but the South African
scenes still hold premier place in the
estimation of a British audience. It
was intended that Saturday night's en-
tertainment was to be a final farewell,
but the success of it induced the manage-
ment to change its intention, and
Harry Gray's announcement that another
entirely new programme, excepting the
pictures, would be presented on Monday
night was received with loud applause. The
fact that H.M.S. *Terrible* and two Ameri-
can men-of-war had entered the Harbour
induced the company to give another per-
formance, and it is hoped that the sailors
will turn out as well as the military did
the other evening.

Importers in the Blood.—We have seen
hundreds of letters from people who have
received great benefit from the use of Clarke's
Blood Mixture. It cannot be too highly estimated,
for it cleanses and clears the blood from all im-
purities. This is a good testimonial from the
Fertility Doctor, which goes on further to say:
"It is the finest Blood Purifier that science and
skill have brought to light, and we can with the
most confident recommendation to our sub-
scribers and the public generally." For Scalds,
Scars, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood
Diseases, Pimples and Sores of all kinds, its
effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful
cures have been effected by it. Clarke's Blood
Mixture is sold everywhere, at 2s. 6d. per bottle.
Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.**The Singapore Garrison.**

Mr. W. Adamson, C.M.G., Chairman
of the Straits Settlements Association, has
had an interview with the Colonial Office
on the question of Singapore garrison. He
was informed that it was arranged that
Singapore should in future have both
British and Native Infantry, the Native
troops being additional to the customary
British.

Plague Detection.

It was stated by us, some days ago,
that the doctors employed in Japan to
assist the Sanitary authorities in detecting
cases of plague in the Colony were handi-
capped in that they had little or no knowl-
edge of the English or Chinese languages.
We understand that three of the doctors
are being sent back to Japan. Could not
some of the Indian military doctors now in
the Colony be lent by the military authori-
ties?

The Abolition of Likin.

It is stated in native official circles (says
the *N. C. Daily News*) that the opposition
against the abolition of Likin throughout
the Empire has been so strong amongst the
mandarins—and the mandarins can scarcely
be blamed for this, as owing to the slow-
ness of the only means of reimbursing
themselves for the outlay they were put to
to obtain their posts that the Central
Government at Peking has positively re-
fused to discuss the subject at all. It is far-
ther believed in native mercantile circles,
where they are, of course, naturally anxious
to have the obnoxious tax abolished as soon
as possible, that no matter what induc-
ment the Foreign Powers may offer the
present reactionary government to make it
consent to the abolition of Likin it will be
abortive, unless some radical transfor-
mation happens, either through a change of
the Party at the head of affairs, or use in
which the Government will be placed at
the mercy of some dictating Power or Par-
ty. As for the dubious plea that abolition
of Likin would mean a rebellion in the
Empire, it is "too transparent," for the
masses will be glad of it, and the only ones
disatisfied and discontented will be those
mandarins who gain a living and amass
wealth through this most elastic of taxes,
and their underlings who collect for them
and sustain on the "crumbs" which fall
from the great man's (Ta-jen) loaf.

Business in Japan.

The *Kobe Chronicle* of the 20th ult.
says:—Business still continues quiet, with
little demand for money except in con-
nection with imports of raw cotton. The money
lying idle in the safes of banks has been
almost absorbed by the second issue of
Eschequer Bonds and the debentures
put on the market by companies, and the
money thus drawn out has not yet begun
to come back. Combined with this,
the export of cotton yarn is almost
at a standstill on account of the
heavy fall in the price of silver.
The circulation of money is therefore
somewhat strained, and the rate of in-
terest remains firm. At Tokyo the
demand for money is said to be very active
for the securities districts, and the Osaka
branches of the banks interested are also
in want of money. The interest charged
at Osaka rules at 2.5 per cent per 100 per
cent, equal to 8.75 per cent.—in some cases
even 12 per cent or 13 per cent, being charged.
Deposits of banks in the Clearing House
at Osaka, which stood at some yen
59,000,000 at the beginning of this month,
have now fallen to about yen 53,000,000,
and the advances, which stood at
yen 68,000,000, have risen to yen
71,000,000. The amount of cash in
hand is now under yen 4,000,000.
The advances of the Bank of Japan
at Osaka on Saturday last stood at yen
2,200,000—an increase of yen 650,000 as
compared with the amount at the end of
the previous week. At Kobe the market
remains inactive, as the tea season is not
yet far enough advanced to demand a
supply of money. There is considerable
speculation made just now in land and
houses, as the value of such property has
declined of late by 10 to 20 per cent. This
has called for outlays by the banks, but
has not resulted in any disturbance of the
market. The rate of interest remains
unchanged with an upward tendency.

BRUISES, WOUNDS AND LACERATIONS.

NEED an antiseptic dressing. Cham-
berlain's Pain Balm answers this
purpose to perfection. It is a liniment of
wonderful healing power. One application
gives relief. Try it. For sale by All
Dealers; WATKINS Ltd., General Agents.

HAPPINESS is best describable as "a mind
in a state of satisfaction—the poor have
more of it than the rich."

The person who can grasp the real idea to
be conveyed by the introductory remarks is
a person who looks deep into the why and
wherefore.

"True Health and Vigor of an individual de-
pend upon the quantity and quality of the Blood.
When the tissues have been at work, there are
thrown into the blood waste products, and if
these be not eliminated but (through any cause)
detained in the blood they produce organic dis-
eases."—*The Hygienist*. In cases of Scalds,
Scars, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood
Diseases, Pimples and Sores of all kinds, its
effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful
cures have been effected by it. Clarke's Blood
Mixture is sold everywhere, at 2s. 6d. per bottle.
Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

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wherefore.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.**Allice Memorial Hospital.**

The Hon. Treasurer of the Allice
Memorial and Netherlands Hospitals begs to
acknowledge with thanks the following
donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—
Ho Ngok Len \$50
B. Brotherton Barker 5

The Dallas Company.

Apron of Medan (writes "Gaius" in
the *Straits Times*), the Dallas Company
which arrived thence this morning say they
are simply enchanted with that Dutch Set-
tlement. Mr. Dallas tells us that, with
seats at 85 and 83 each, he simply packed
the house for five nights, and he could have
remained there another week with profit to
himself had his other arrangements per-
mitted his doing so. Though much of the
scintillant wit of such pieces as the *Thoreador*
was naturally lost on the greater part of the
audiences, the performances as a whole
were most enthusiastically received—es-
pecially the dances.

Swimming Race.

At Kowloon, to-morrow, at 5.30 p.m.,
the Victoria Recreation Club will hold a
team race. The following teams will
compete:—

Station 1.	Station 2.
A. Humphreys (Capt.)	J. A. Lumner (Capt.)
Frank Jones	J. H. Hume
C. Alves	J. A. Lyon
C. P. Harlist	M. R. M. P. P. P.
F. K. Tata	A. J. Macleod
F. J. Mitchell	A. Roberto
H. A. Soth	A. M. Scaras
N. H. Alves (Capt.)	
E. D. Bain	
H. S. Kennett	
A. V. Barros	
H. Rapp	
W. Andrews	
A. A. Lopes	

Sir George Pretyman.

Major-General Sir George Tindal
Pretyman, K.C.M.G., who has just been
appointed to a first-class District in India,
in succession to Major-General Sir Gerald
de Courcy Morton, is best-known as the
Military Governor of the Orange River
Colony from 1890 until February last year.
He was then succeeded by Major-General
Adams. Sir George Pretyman served in the
Red River expedition, and was A.D.C.
to General Sir Frederick (now Lord)
Roberts in the Afghan War. He marched
from Kabul to Kandahar, and was Military
Secretary afterward to Sir F. Roberts. He
commanded a second-class district in Bengal
from 1889 to 1894, and his career as a
soldier has been a distinguished one through-
out. Sir Gerald Morton was Adjutant-
General in India from 1895 to 1899, and
has seen all his service in India. In the
April Army List, Major-General Pretyman
appears as a first-class District Commander
in Secunderabad, on the district staff of the
Madras Command under Sir George
Wolsley. Last month Major-General
Pretyman appeared in the list of Major-
Generals removed from the Regiment
(Royal Artillery) and still on the active list.
Major-General Morton appears in the
Army List as a Major-General on the Staff,
Dublin district.

The Old Old Tale!

At the present time when tariff rari-
on is in evidence and the "long arm" of
the Chinese Government is expected to
put down provincial abuses, it is interest-
ing to read the following paragraph in the
letter of a Peking correspondent to the
N. C. Daily News:—"There have been lately
a great many complaints about the way in
which the collections of the Peking Native
Customs have been carried out by Prince
Su's underlings. Many stories, true or
false, are being told of the blackmailing
propensities of the Custom watchers at
various gates of the city. Of course foreign
owned goods have been exempt from this
extra squeeze, and many Chinese, who are
fortunate enough to have foreign acquaint-
ances, had their goods passed as foreign
owned. In one case I heard of the native
gladly paying one hundred taels to his for-
eign acquaintance for passing a hundred
boxes of glass. A consular has memorialised
the throne denouncing the whole admini-
stration, and Prince Su, with the intention
probably of forestalling any steps which
might be taken on the memorial, has
issued a proclamation practically admit-
ting these irregularities and urging the
people not to pay more than the regular
dues and to insist on a receipt for the
amount paid, so that if any overcharge is
made a thorough examination can be made.
One cannot help feeling sorry for the Prince
in his struggles to honestly administer the
customs. By originating the plan of pay-
ing fair salaries to himself and his employees
he thought he might do away to a great
extent with the squeezing, but instead it
seems to have acted as an incentive to the
practice. Thus, on the other hand, he has
made many enemies for himself among the
high officials who hope to succeed to the
office on the expiry of his term; as instead
of appropriating the bulk of the taxes to his
own purse, as has been the custom in the
past, he has handed it over to the Imperial
Eschequer."

PROMPT ACTION

In dealing with what may be only a slight
cough will often avert some more serious
illness.

STEARNS' COUGH CURE

is just the thing for this, as it is always
speedy and effective. Wholesale from A. S.
Watson & Co., Ltd., Hongkong.

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TELEGRAMS.**[BRITISH SERVICE.]****A LIBERAL GAIN.**

LONDON, 15th

MONDAY, MAY 19, 1902.

TELEGRAMS.

THE SHIPPING COMBINE.
The British Press is still much irritated about the conditions of the Morgan Steamship trust, to which the British shipping interests have been submitted; they now acknowledge unreservedly that the position of the German companies is extremely favourable.

THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.
The Triple Alliance has been signed; the treaty is exactly the same as the old one. To-morrow, the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Prinetti, will make exactly the same statements as Count Goluchowski has done, in accordance with an agreement made on the 8th inst. in Vienna. The French efforts to have alterations made have not been successful.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.
PARIS, May 14.
The definite results of the elections in France are announced as the election of 280 ministerialists, and 301 anti-ministerialists.

DESPERATE AFFRAY WITH PIRATES.

Fourteen Pirates Captured.
Ningpo, May 13.
On Thursday, the 8th instant, the Government steam launch Yang Ai had a big fight, off the Volcano Islands, with two boats which they had caught in the act of robbing fishing boats. After a long fight lasting over an hour, the launch took both boats and fourteen men prisoners, and brought them into Chinai for trial, and they all have been condemned to death. Several of the pirates were badly wounded, but none of the crew of the launch was hurt.

On the 10th instant, a large junk from Shanghai, bound to Ningpo, was boarded by pirates off Lohing in the early morning, and the launch of the junk was shot and his body thrown overboard. The pirates then looted the junk, and took \$1,500 in silver and some of the cargo out of her and then let her go. She came into port during the forenoon, and reported the matter to the officials.

On Saturday afternoon, the 10th instant, four men came into Chinai and reported to the officials that they belonged to a Chiniking rice junk, bound from Chiniking to Ningpo, and that when off Lohing they had been taken by pirates and that the junk and remainder of the crew were held for a ransom of \$4,000. Two of the crew were shot, as they offered a strong resistance.

Yesterday afternoon, the 12th inst., six pirates were beheaded at Chinai in front of the Main South Jetty. They were all beheaded together. Like a flash six swords fell and six heads dropped. — *Meowey.*

Band Performance.

The following is the programme of music to be performed by the Band of the 2nd Royal Welch Fusiliers on the new Parade Ground from 5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday next, the 21st instant, (weather permitting):—
March..... "Lionel"..... Wagner
Overture..... "Schubert"..... Strauss
Selection..... "Les Cloches de"..... Planquette
Coronville.....
Valse..... "Les Patineurs"..... Waldteufel
Descriptive "Chinese War March"..... Michaelis
Selection..... "The Chiffchaff"..... Sullivan
"God Save the King."

Gun Practice on the 'Terrible.'

In the House of Commons on the 12th ult., Mr. Kebley asked the Secretary to the Admiralty whether Petty Officer Grounds, of H.M.S. 'Terrible,' who 'last year accomplished the feat of putting right his on the prize-firing target in one minute from a 6 in. quick-firing gun while his ship was steaming past at 12 knots, received any special monetary reward for this skill; and whether, having regard to the fact that the King's prize at Bisley obtained a monetary prize of £250 and a gold medal and badge, the Admiralty would consider the desirability of instituting some national prize to be competed for each year by the crews of the guns of His Majesty's Fleet. Mr. Arnold-Forster: The sum of £251.15s. was placed at the disposal of the Captain of H.M.S. 'Terrible' for distribution in prizes for living with the 6 in. Gun. The petty officer referred to received his proper share of the amount allotted to the gun's crew of which he was the captain. The conditions under which heavy gun firing is conducted in the Royal Navy are such that it is not considered possible, even if it were desirable, to institute a prize similar to the King's Prize competed for by the Volunteers at Bisley. Every effort is made by the offer of money prizes, and by taking advantage of the esprit de corps and rivalry prevailing between different ships, to encourage gunners in the Navy to obtain proficiency in gunnery. There are objections to any attempt to put the gunnery of the Fleet on the lines of a military rifle competition.

I have great pleasure in recommending Stearns' Wine of Cod Liver Oil and consider it one of the best tonics I have taken.
Yours truly,
J. Boudinot.
41, Albany Road, Chobson-cumhardy, England. Wholesale from A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Hongkong.

REVIEWS.

A Batch of New Songs.

1. An Irish Mother's Lullaby. (No. 1 in E. No. 2 in A Flat.) Words by Mary Elizabeth Black; music by Margaret Ruthven Lang.
2. 'Why?' (Pourquoi) (No. 1 in C, No. 2 in D.) French words by J. Thénard; English version by R. H. Elkins; music by C. Chaminade.
3. 'Sous le vent' (No. 1 in A Flat, No. 2 in B Flat, No. 3 in C.) Words by Clifton Bingham; music by H. Trellove.
4. 'Harvest' (No. 1 in A Flat, No. 2 in B Flat, No. 3 in C.) Words and music by Gerald Lane.
5. 'The Shooey Shoo' ('The See Saw') (No. 1 in D, No. 2 in F.) Words by Winthrop Packard; music by Paul Ambrose.
6. 'Surrounds' (No. 1 in C, No. 2 in E Flat.) Words by R. H. Elkins; music by London Ronald.
7. 'The Fairy Flower' (La Fleur-Jolie) (No. 1 in G, No. 2 in E Flat.) French words by Robert Myriel; English version by R. H. Elkins; music by C. Chaminade.
8. 'Butterfly Time' (No. 1 in E Flat, No. 2 in F.) Words by Ed. Tesche-macher; music by Arthur Vernon.
9. 'If All the Dreams We Dream, Dear' (No. 1 in E Flat, No. 2 in F.) Words by Rhoda Janet Walker; music by Frank Lynes.

In this attractive collection of nine new songs, just published by Messrs. Knott and Sons, London, we find much that is undoubtedly interesting, and in the cases of the best-known composers, great individuality and charm. In none of them is there the slightest taint of triviality, and I can heartily commend them. It is seldom that the reviewer comes across a portfolio of new music of such all-round excellence as the one just received from the old established house in Great Marlborough Street. Of this new music, special mention must be made of C. Chaminade's 'Why?' and 'The Fairy Flower.' The words by Thénard and Myriel or somewhat enigmatical, but the distinguished features of the music are grace and distinction, and this alone is a sufficient guarantee of excellence. Both these compositions will merit the attention of vocalists, for the composer, as usual, shows considerable versatility and originality, the harmonic schemes being bold and manifestly dictated by a wish to suggest the spirit of the text.

An eminently welcome song, which will be heartily welcomed by singers who covet popular applause, is Gerald Lane's 'Harvest.' It is very pleasing, and a vocalist with dramatic perception could make the refrain 'Cometh the Golden Autumn-tide' very expressive. Lane's 'Harvest' will certainly bear comparison with any of its forerunners, perhaps excepting the beautiful 'Life's Lullaby'—which, considering their all-round excellence, means a great deal.

In Trotter's 'Sunshine' the blending of scholarship with the attractive elements of taste and expression calls for special remark. This song embraces some of the best work that this able vocalist-composer has yet put out, and it will be admitted that higher praise cannot be recorded. The poetic sentiment of Clifton Bingham's words has been caught by the composer from the opening distinctly melodious subject; continuing throughout inviting and spontaneous. The composition is a neat specimen of its kind, and should be as welcome in the drawing-room as on the public platform.

London Ronald has furnished a very melodious song in 'Sunbeams,' another addition to a host of popular compositions. It partakes of the style and order known amongst singers as 'the encore song,' and as such there needs be no fear about its entire fitness.

In 'The Shooey Shoo' (Paul Ambrose) has taken his words from the Chap Book, partaking of the nature of a lullaby, the refrain has been written to 6/8 time, with a characteristic accompaniment well suited to the idea and nature of the words—
Sweet and low, swinging low, eyes of Irish blue,
All my heart is swinging here, swinging here with you;
Irish eyes are like the flax and mine are wet with dew.
Think of the old, old days, upon the shooey shoo.

It is one of that commendable class of songs which seeks to be understood of the multitude while at the same time not descending to the trivial or commonplace.

Margaret Lang's 'An Irish Mother Lullaby' is a simple number, but full of warmth and tenderness. The closing phrases to each verse are to be sung to a clever but extremely simple and catching accompaniment. This vocal essay is in truth the embodiment of refined melody, pure harmony and rich modulation, and should find a place in the repertoire of all singers, to whom it will certainly prove a first favourite.

'Butterfly-time' and 'If all the dreams we dream, dear,' necessarily varied in style and treatment, are both of first-rate quality. They have singable melodies, appropriately accompanied. They are both excellent types of the modern song, and they will doubtless attain to recognised places during the forthcoming season.

MUSICUS.

CONSUMPTION.
WHICH is the most dangerous and fatal disease, has as its first indication a persistent cough, and it properly treated soon as this cough appears is easily cured. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has proven wonderfully successful, and gained its wide reputation and extensive sale by its success in curing the disease which causes cough. It always cures and cures quickly. For sale by All Dealers: WATKINS Ltd., General Agents.

LONDON LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent).
London, April 18.

The authorised text of the Manchurian Convention fully bears out the opinion I expressed as to its real drift. If England and Japan are satisfied with it, so much the worse for them. Russia agrees to quit Manchuria by easy stages during the next eighteen months or so. At first sight this seems fairly satisfactory, but the concession is not merely neutralised but actually contradicted by the conditions with which it is hedged. As the Russians evacuate a district, the numbers and nature of the Chinese troops which are to be permitted to occupy it are to be settled by Russian advice, while if other Powers obstruct the retirement, or if there be any trouble whatever, the Russians may re-occupy the country. This means that no question of retirement need be raised for a year and a half, that Russia is to have a controlling voice as to the arrangements of the reposition of the country by China, and, most important of all, that Russia has a *de facto* hand for the creation of incidents to justify her in remaining where she is. We know what these incidents are. It was officially reported a few days ago that Cossack troops had had a brush with Manchurian robber bands—Russian casualties, two killed, five slightly wounded. Thirty of the '300' robbers' survived. This can only mean a repetition of the Blagovestchensk horrors, of which so lurid an account was given by M. Veresteghin with the simple directness that characterises his war pictures. Russia has not the slightest idea of ever relaxing her grip on Manchuria, and what we have wrong from her is only an agreement to do so at the Greek Kalendar, nominally in 18 months, but in reality the day after not at all.

Last year's budget was supposed to hit the working man. As it happened, it did not do so with any severity, for though the retail price of sugar rose it fell again, and the lesson has not been lost. This year's budget marks another step in the process of broadening the bases of taxation. We are now to spread taxed jam on taxed bread, and the very babies with their rice and sage will contribute to the revenue, while the poor income taxpayer, the hardest hit of all, uncomplainingly shoulders a heavier burden than ever. The small shop-keeper will revert to the barbarous habit of paying his debts in coin on account of the twopenny cheque tax, and yet we seem somehow nearer to the time when everyone will pay practically according to his ability. Gloomy critics tell us that now we have to pay for our 'malicious' Well, what of it? Were the thing to do again, we should 'malicious' again. The bill must be paid, and indirect taxes, though theoretically impossible, have the advantage of being the easiest to collect and of causing less inconvenience to the payer than direct ones. Five-sixths of the money is to be borrowed, so that we cannot say we are putting too large a share of the burden on the present year, and though bread has risen a halfpenny to-day, there is no reason why it should. The tax is so small that under the pressure of competition it will find its way to the middle-men, and the price of the loaf will fall again in a month or two. The cheque tax is an annoying one. A penny is a delightful coin. Twopenny is a nuisance. Still it only increases the price when we buy a new cheque-book, and will not be remembered as we sign such individual cheques.

I think it was Mr. Henniker Heaton who told the British public how to evade the twopenny registration fee, and to register a letter for one half-penny. You put a halfpenny stamp on the letter and a loose penny stamp inside it. The Post Office will take the greatest care of the missive for the sake of the penny (double deficiency) they have to collect on delivery, while your correspondent, after paying the fine, will recoup himself by the stamp you have enclosed. Similarly, I expect someone will soon suggest that instead of cheques for amounts under five pounds, we might as well use promissory notes at seven days (which bear a penny stamp only) and antedate them by a week. Why not?

The war is waning. This seems clear from the abundance of special and exclusive information of the most contradictory type. Of the halfpenny papers, the virtuous *Mail* knows that peace prospects are darker than ever, the *Express* has undeniable authority for the opposite opinion, while the

Leader thinks we have a chance of peace but will probably throw it away. You will probably have satisfactory assurances before these lines reach you.

The Spion Kop papers came out yesterday. They seem to show (1) That General Buller thought he blundered in not taking over the command himself on January 1902, being dissatisfied with the conduct of affairs by Sir Chas. Warren. (2) That Lord Roberts thought so also. The fact that Buller retained his command while Warren was transferred elsewhere seems to justify both opinions.

SERIOUS FIRE IN QUEEN'S ROAD.

Another huge geyser was made in Queen's Road during the night, when no fewer than fifteen houses were burned to the ground, the fire being one of the cleanest and costliest that has occurred in the Colony for some time. The alarm was raised shortly after 1.30, it having broken out, through some unknown cause, on the second floor of No. 192, Wellington Street, immediately behind the Station of the Central Fire Brigade. By the time the men of the brigade got outside, the whole of this house was in a blaze like a furnace. Many women and children were shrieking and yelling to the firemen to save them, and it is believed that a number of them are burned to death or crushed in the flames. The authorities at the water-works were notified to turn on the water, but notwithstanding this it was found necessary to use sea water pumped from the Harbour by the floating fire engine. Until this was obtained, the firemen had to stand helplessly by—about three-quarters of an hour being wasted. During this time, the fire made tremendous progress, the flames leaped high in the air and caused the Colony to be illuminated for miles around. The efforts of the Brigade, once they got to work, were hampered very much by the dense crowd of Chinese and Europeans who had flocked to the scene. Spreading from 192, the flames devoured Nos. 188 and 190, on the east side and Nos. 194, 196, and 198 on the west side, and also 178, 180 and 182, Queen's Road Central, also on the west side. Owing to the size great depth of the buildings and the great hold the flames had got, the firemen had to fight against heavy odds, and, before they got the mastery of the destructive element, houses Nos. 4, 6, 8 and 10 Kan U Fong, a lane at the back of the Wellington Street, also fell victims, and were completely gutted. Nos. 184 and 186 Queen's Road were greatly damaged both by fire and water. It is believed that the total damage exceeds a quarter of a million dollars, and is mostly covered by insurance, although, owing to the day being a holiday, and the insurers' offices being closed, it is impossible to obtain correct details. It is stated that the Commercial Union, China Fire, and Tung On are heavily implicated, and there are many other companies which hold lines on the properties. About three o'clock the walls of several of the houses fell in, and there were some unenviable escapes on the part of some of the firemen. Mr. Mackie, Deputy Captain Superintendent of Police, who was in charge of the operations, had to fly for his life. The walls of some of the Wellington Street houses fell outwards and did considerable damage to the fire-brigade station. The flames also caught hold of the wood-work on that side of the Station, and, but for the presence of mind of the man in charge, the building would also have been lost. The thick walls of the Globe Hotel (2½ feet thick) were the means of stopping the spread of the conflagration on its western journey, although they broke through in two places and had to be tackled by the firemen and the people inside. The true extent of the damage will never be estimated, but there is no doubt that much of the property could have been saved had the water been turned on in the main. We learn that it was turned on to a matter for investigation. At 10.30 the walls of the Wellington Street houses collapsed inwards with a tremendous crash one after the other, and about 12.30 the steam roller was brought into use to pull down the remaining walls of a dangerous nature, and this task it accomplished in a manner which was at once satisfactory and a spectacle for all present. Sir Douglas was in charge of this dangerous bit of work, and deserves all praise as did also the hard-worked and under-paid firemen who did the very best they could under the adverse circumstances.

The Governor of Jamaica has appointed Chief Justice Sir Fiskling Clarke, the officer commanding troops in the Island, and one elected member of the Legislature, as Commissioners to investigate the facts and causes in connection with the recent riots at Montego Bay. The Commission meets immediately.

There's progress in having something to say before saying anything. Ecological people are disagreeable, not because they have pleased themselves, but because they have pleased a few other people.

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